

## Camera Craft

**Black Swan in New Zealand.**—Both pictures were taken by me on March 26th last, on a lagoon near the Wairarapa Lake, Lower Wairarapa Valley. As you are aware, the Black Swan was introduced into New Zealand, and now is found in most parts of New Zealand suitable to its habits. As the photograph shows, the birds are quite plentiful on and near the Wairarapa Lake. There are a large number of lagoons around its borders. The nest, which was situated just inside the raupo seen in the



Nest of Introduced Black Swan (*Chenopsis atrata*), N.Z.

Photo. by R. H. D. Stidolph, R.A.O.U., Masterton, N.Z.

other picture, is probably one of the last of this season's. It had six eggs, much incubated. The photograph was taken from another Swan's nest ten feet away. The nests are built entirely of raupo leaves, and average at least three feet across. The water in which they were standing was about three feet deep.—ROBT. H. D. STIDOLPH, 28 Makora Road, Masterton, N.Z.

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**Wild Magpies at "Belltrees."**—Every winter wild Magpies, the black-backed smaller species (*Gymnorhina tibicen*) are regularly fed at "Belltrees." The accompanying "snap" was taken within ten yards of Mr. White's office, where a staging is provided for a breakfast of chopped meat. The Magpies soon become trustful and tame, and make merry music at early morn and again at eve. When spring arrives the birds distribute themselves over the broad acres of "Belltrees" to breed, when they and their young devour hoards of noxious insects.